

## Acting United States Attorney James R. Klindt Middle District of Florida

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## FOUR PERSONS CHARGED IN SEPARATE AIRLINE ASSAULT CASES

Jacksonville, FL - James R. Klindt, Acting United States Attorney for the Middle District of Florida, Michael Folmar, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Edward J. Goodwin, Federal Security Director, William L. Reese, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Air Marshal Service, Chief Sedrick L. Rivers, Jacksonville Aviation Authority Public Safety and Security Department, announced today the unsealing of two federal indictments charging Brandy Lee Shampine and John Michael Moody, II, an attorney, with assaulting flight attendants and interfering with their duties. If convicted, Shampine and Moody could be sentenced to up to twenty years in prison and ordered to pay \$250,000 in fines.

Shampine, a 24 year-old resident of St. Marys, Georgia, is charged with assaulting and intimidating flight attendants and interfering with the performance of their duties on a May 20, 2007 U.S. Airways flight from Charlotte, North Carolina, to Jacksonville, Florida. Moody, a 43 year-old resident of Wilton Manors, Florida, is charged with assaulting and intimidating flight attendants and with interfering with the performance of their duties on a June 11, 2007 Southwest Airlines flight from Indianapolis, Indiana to Fort Lauderdale, Florida, with a stop in Jacksonville, Florida. In addition to the two felony indictments, Mr. Klindt announced the filing of an Information charging Dr. Samuel Berkowitz, a 79 year-old resident of Coral Gables, Florida, with a misdemeanor assault occurring during

a flight. If convicted, Dr. Berkowitz could be sentenced to up to six months in prison and ordered to pay a \$5,000 fine. In that case, the Information alleges that Dr. Berkowitz assaulted a person on a May 31, 2007 American Airlines flight scheduled to fly between Miami, Florida and Columbus, Ohio, which was diverted to Jacksonville, Florida.

In a fourth case Lakee N. Chiles, age 27, of Detroit, Michigan, is charged by the State Attorney's Office with battery. Ms. Chiles allegedly assaulted a flight attendant on a United Airlines flight that landed in Jacksonville on June 21, 2207. If convicted she faces up to one year imprisonment.

These cases were investigated by the Federal Air Marshal Service, an agency of the Transportation Security Administration, the Jacksonville office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Jacksonville Aviation Authority Public Safety and Security Department. The federal cases will be prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Dale R. Campion.

Each of the three federal defendants are on bond stemming from their previous arrests on criminal complaints, and court dates have yet to be scheduled on the formal charging documents.

An indictment is merely a formal charge that a defendant has committed a violation of the federal criminal laws, and every defendant is presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty.